



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Taggart et al. Examiner: Soubra, I.  
Serial No. : 09/354,478 Art Unit: 1744  
Filing Date: 07/15/99 Dkt. No.: STEU-2661  
Title: Apparatus and Method for Providing Container Interior  
Sterilization In An Aseptic Processing Apparatus

Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Amendment

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 21, 2000,  
please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 9 and 19.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 1. (Amended) Apparatus comprising:  
2 a first supply source of sterile air;  
3 a supply source of sterilant;  
4 an atomizing system producing an atomized sterilant  
5 from the mixing of the sterile air from the first supply source  
6 of sterile air with the sterilant;  
7 a second supply source of a hot sterile air for  
8 providing the hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;  
9 a probe extending into an interior of a container for  
10 applying the atomized sterilant into the interior of the  
11 container; and

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